

Daily Planet



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'New' main engines help lift Atlantis toward Space Station

Space Shuttle Atlantis blazed its way toward the International Space Station on Monday with the help of three "new" main engines. The Block II configuration engines use an improved fuel pump -- with no welds and a stronger integral shaft/disk and bearings -- making them safer and more reliable. The pump could potentially increase the number of flights between major overhauls. The main engines are managed by the Space Shuttle Projects Office at Marshall.

**April is
Environmental
Awareness Month**

'Take Our Children to Work Day' is April 25

Reservations for student rocket launch due April 19

All Marshall team members are invited to Student Launch Initiative activities Saturday, April 27. High school students will be launching rockets and payloads they designed. Transportation to the launch site will be provided from the pick-up spot near the SR71 Blackbird at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center at 9:15 a.m. on launch day. Due to the limited number of people allowed in the launch area, reservations are required by April 19 and can be made by calling 544-8800.

<http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov>